

Recreation Department

REPORT OF THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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On
your Mark get REC Go!
Newmarket Recreation made great strides in 2006 in our efforts to offer diverse and innovative programming for our Newmarket town residents. We are proud to announce that in the past year we have become a leader in the recreation industry on a national level in both inclusive and teen programming. Few communities of our size can boast what we now offer in regards to recreational diversity. It is our wish that our town residents now read what their recreation department has accomplished in their community in the year 2006. By going the extra Smile we are committed, as you will read below, to REC Your Day…

REC the Pre-Teens and Teens of Newmarket in the Club Chameleon Way

We
are happy to announce that at the end of 2006 we had over
175 teens
registered in the Club Chameleon program, that’s 35 teens up from last year. In addition, the club has now taken as many as 29 outdoor adventure trips. Just recently we even acquired via a donation a 17' enclosed trailer to transport our 20 new mountain bikes for our mountain bike adventures. We would also like to report that Club Chameleon has been very busy in the past year trying to incorporate into its program the Chameleon
Connection, a
one-on-one mentoring program connecting our teens with positive role models from the Life Skills program at UNH. To date, we have now connected 28 teens with 28 UNH athletes. To help us organize this new connection, we want to welcome JD Bellamy, an AmeriCorps /VISTA, who came to us in 2006 to specifically work on this project. Club Chameleon teens continued to find opportunities to “pay it forward” in 2006 with community service projects, including helping with the Newmarket Heritage Festival in late September. If you were at the festival you may have seen them in action, helping to tackle trash detail, setting up and breaking down for various entertainment events, and anything else that might of been needed. If you haven’t logged on in awhile, Club

Chameleon's newly renovated website was recently awarded with DesignsFirms 2006-2007 Web Award! Thank you Inward Solutions who donated this fabulous website to Club Chameleon in 2006. Finally, a Big KUDOS goes to our Club Chameleon program for once again being recognized on a national level! Just recently, the National Recreation & Park Association and the Outdoor Industry Foundation (OIF) designated Club Chameleon as one of the 20 "Teens Outside" pilot sites nationwide for the upcoming year 2007. OIF partnered with the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) to offer this program to selected communities through their local Parks and Recreation Departments. After receiving an overwhelming number of applications in 2006, OIF and NRPA selected 20 agencies based on their current community ties, teen programming, experience with outdoor recreation, focus on mentoring, and geographic diversity. We do not like to brag, but we feel that Club Chameleon led the pack in all areas on a national level! If you would like more information on this awesome program or would like to donate and/or contribute in some way to this worthwhile cause, please call the Recreation Dept. or log onto www.clubchameleon.org.

REC

every Newmarket Residents Day in our Seasonal Special Events Way

The

following will be our brief annual RECap of the "Traditional and Favorite" special events we hold every year, in addition to a few new ones! Our Daddy Daughter Date Night was a heavenly experience for approximately 330 Little Angels and Dads of Newmarket who attended our Thank Heaven for Little Girls Dance. In addition, for the first time in two years we weren't buried in snow for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The 400 children hunting for eggs were very excited to do this in the spring-like weather! The weather even held up for the Recreation Annual Fishing Derby. We again partnered with the town's Conservation Commission, and stocked over 750 rainbow trout and brook trout in Herb Richmond's Pond. As always, kids with fishing poles arrived as early as 6:30 a.m. just waiting to lure a few fish out of the pond. After an exhausting summer of Summer Camp, which we'll go into detail later in this report, we practically fell into fall with two of our favorite Halloween themed events. First came the annual Spooky Sleepover where over 50 kids were invited to stay the night in our Haunted Community Center. Next came the annual town favorite, our Happy Halloween Haunt & Costume Parade. We decided to get "twisted" in November with a Tooney Twist and Tango themed Mother and Son Dance; can you say Twist & Shout? The 2006 Season of Giving started again with the Annual Giving Tree during the Town Tree Lighting Ceremony. Finishing up the year, we would like to thank Santa Claus again for taking time out of his busy December schedule to visit at our Annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Party.

REC

Newmarket Kids with a 2006 "Target Fun" Summer Theme

We

started summer camp "right on target" by giving campers a chance to aim and throw balls hoping to soak their camp counselors in a dunk tank! We continued to stay on target throughout the summer with fun filled special event target games. Kids even got to play Condiment Target Twister with (red) ketchup, (green) relish, (yellow) mustard, and you guessed it, (blue) grape jelly! Needless to say, the summer was filled with activities to keep kids busy, laughing, and having fun with their friends. Parents continue to give us positive feedback on our summer camp program telling us their kids just love all the creative special events, field trips, and sports & game activities and, of course, the awesome staff. Our continued success with inclusion in camp has also placed us on the national map. Our summer camp inclusive team was even asked to speak at the TASH conference in Baltimore last November in an effort to encourage and promote the concept of adding a friendship facilitator into other communities summer camp programs.

A friendship facilitator

was first introduced into our summer staff line-up 3 years ago and is hired to help bridge social gaps between children to make sure that all children were supported during camp to give them the best experience that we possibly could. TASH

is an international membership association leading the way to inclusive communities through research, education, and advocacy.

Due to the increasing popularity of our summer program, our registration numbers topped off again this year at a total of 420 campers from preschool age children on up to 9th grade. This number includes our Little "Rec" Preschool Summer Camp for ages 3-5, our regular 1st

Rec from the Sun Adventure Camp for 1st

- 6th

grade, and our increasingly popular TEEN T.U.R.F. (The Ultimate Recreational "F"enomenon) Camp geared for 7th-9th

graders. Registration for any of our summer camp programs start on March 1st

for Newmarket residents.

REC our

Residents Year with new and innovative Seasonal Recreation Programming

Due

to the overwhelming success with our introductory lacrosse program last spring for 3rd

& 4th

graders, we now added 5th

& 6th

grade league in 2007 to allow those children who started last year to continue on with lacrosse. Newmarket Recreation also brought back Hershey's Track & Field and recruited kids 9-14 years to participate in the 2006 summer games. Hershey Track & Field Games

is an exciting track and field event to promote active lifestyles, sportsmanship and to provide an opportunity for kids to be the best that they can be. Even our 5 & 6-year old T-ball program grew in 2006 with the addition of 2 more teams to accommodate the number of children registered in the program. Our most innovative after school programs in 2006 would have to be our new YogaKids program and our Mrs. Z's Home Art Classes. The home art classes teach children how to cook, sew and make beautiful crafts. We've definitely learned that our kids love the idea of becoming the next Martha Stewart!

REC our Senior Citizens Day, with
the Sunrise Sunset Newmarket Senior Activity Center

It was our hope to have the Newmarket Senior Activity Center (the old Ambulance Building behind the Police Station) would be up and running by the end of the year 2006. Unfortunately, as we write this annual town report, it looks more like we're in for a grand opening sometime in the spring of 2007. However, we have indeed made a lot of progress this past year soliciting opinions from Newmarket seniors on the specific activities they would like to see offered at their new center. In an effort to formalize this procedure, we implemented a Senior Activity Center Steering Committee, made up entirely of Newmarket senior citizen, who met monthly to discuss program activities, layout design, preferred furniture features, and fundraising ideas. We also toured several senior centers in the state of NH to gather creative ideas that we might like to duplicate for Newmarket's senior activity center. Lastly, we applied for a New Hampshire GraniteCare Senior Wellness Grant, which if granted, will help pay for specific wellness programs for seniors in 2007. Again, we hope to expand senior programming all together after the new center opens in the year 2007. In the meantime, we continue to provide our senior monthly lunch bunch trips, overnight trips, and theatre trips with great success!

REC the Tax Payers Day by making
2006 Revenue

With the expansion in programming and the increased attendance numbers in our very popular summer camp program, we were especially excited to announce that we brought in over \$189,000 in revenue for the Town of Newmarket in the 2005/2006 fiscal year! This revenue helps to keep stable your recreation tax spending dollars and still allows growth.

We're here to REC your Day in "EVERY" way by inviting each and every resident of Newmarket to participate and enjoy themselves in Newmarket Recreation activities! In exchange we will continue to create an inclusive recreational culture so that all members of our community, regardless of differences or background can

participate in a recreational outlet that they enjoy throughout the year.

Jim
Hilton Aimee Gigandet Anneliese Fisher Katie Yeaton

Director Asst.
Director Operations Manager Front Desk

2007 NEWMARKET RECREATION SPECIAL EVENTS SCHEDULE

Due to space we are unable to list all our programs. However, we do several brochure mailings to everyone listed on our mailing list each year. If you did not receive one via the mail, then we encourage you to come down to the Recreation Department, located in the Community Center on 1 Terrace Drive, and pick up our newest Winter/Spring 2007 activity brochure. For those of you who have just moved to Newmarket and are unfamiliar with some of our annual special events, you will find a calendar of our most "popular" events for the upcoming year 2007 below:

JANUARY Winter
Enrichment Classes begin (pick up brochure)

FEBRUARY Daddy Daughter Date Night on 2/8, Ice
Show on 2/16

MARCH Spring
enrichment classes begin (pick up brochure)

Registration
for our Summer Camp 3/1, T.R.L. Fifth Grade Dance on 3/16

APRIL: Annual
Easter Egg Hunt 4/7

MAY Community
Garden begins, Hershey Track and Field practice begins

JUNE

Summer enrichment classes begin (pick up flyers)

Annual Fishing Derby on 6/16

First Rec from the Sun Summer Adventure Day
Camp (8 wks) starts 6/27

JULY Play

Soccer Camp 7/9-14, Seacoast
United Camp July 30 - 8/3,

AUGUST Drive-In Movie 8/13, End of Camp 8/17,
Nellie Soccer Camp 8/20-24

SEPTEMBER: Fall

enrichment classes begin (pick up brochure)

Little "Rec" Preschool Playgroup
school term begins

OCTOBER: Spooky Sleepover 10/13, Annual
Halloween Haunt
on 10/27

NOVEMBER: Mother

& Son Dance 11/8, Flag Football Super Bowl Party on TBA

DECEMBER: Annual

Giving Tree on 12/1, Annual Christmas Party on 12/15

Our Mission to you...

Be

it with fast and friendly service, knowledgeable advice or a listening ear, the staff at Newmarket Recreation Department feel that the families of Newmarket expect and deserve a place that meets the needs of a small town and close-knit community. We will strive to get to know you and your families in order to better serve you in any way we can. The Newmarket Recreation Department has always been your destination for all types of exciting activities, special trips, and seasonal fun. We feel we are not just a business or a community center, but an extension of the small town ethic, trying to provide you with friendly and accommodating service. We are your home away from home, a true center for the town of Newmarket! In providing a recreation outlet to our customers, our goal here at Newmarket Recreation is to offer a variety of introductory courses that allow all individuals the opportunity to be exposed to new leisure experiences. In doing this, we strive to create an inclusive recreational culture that works for all members of the community,

regardless of differences or background. We hope you'll catch the wave and "wanna iguana" often at Newmarket Recreation by participating in several activities that we offer.